

(c) whether the Non-Government Organisations also provide such assistance; and

(d) if so, the norms laid down in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI) : (a) to (d). Government of India have constituted Reshtriya Mahila Kosh on 30th March, 1993 and they placed a corpus fund of Rs.31 crores with RMK. Governing Board of RMK has adopted a policy to give RMK loans to poor women through experienced and competent NGOs. Where NOGs are not available, Women Development corporation and Women Co-operative Societies can also be considered for loans. The extent of credit per woman borrower was fixed at the rate of Rs.2,500/- for short-term purposes, repayable within 15 months and Rs.5,000/- for medium-term purposes repayable within 3-5 years.

During 1995-96, an amount of Rs.852.00 lakhs was sanctioned to 38 new and 24 repeat NGOs for benefiting 37502 women. In addition, Rs.9.46 lakhs was sanctioned for supporting the formation/stabilisation of self-help groups of women through 10 NGOs.

[English]

N.H. 21- H.P.

2836. SHRI SUKH RAM : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated damage caused to National Highway No.21 between Pandoh and Manali by floods in the months of September, 1995 (rainy season) ;

(b) when and how much funds were demanded by Himachal Pradesh Government for restoration of the said road and the quantum of funds sanctioned therefor;

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon upto January, 1996 and the quantum of funds sanctioned in the month of January/February, 1996; and

(d) the time by which the sanction was conveyed to Himachal Pradesh Government and how much expenditure was incurred thereon upto June 30, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Due to September, 1995 floods the damage to Pandoh-Manali section of NH.21 was estimated at Rs.17.61 crores by the State Government. Estimates amounting to Rs.8.10 crores were sanctioned for restoration works.

(c) and (d). An amount of Rs.700.00 lakhs was allocated during the year 1995-96 for flood damage repairs (new) for National Highways in the State of Himachal Pradesh. Expenditure of Rs.124.08 lakhs has been reported upto January, 1996 and Rs.465.00 lakhs upto June, 1996 for restoration of flood damages to Pandoh-Manali Section of N.H.21.

[Translation]

Goitre

2837. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of areas in the country where incidence of Goitre has been noticed;

(b) whether in certain States it has become highly virulent; and

(c) if so, the names of the places where it has become virulent and the steps being taken to tackle the same and measures contemplated to eradicate the disease from the endemic areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Out of 255 districts surveyed in all States and UTs except Poinidicherry, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Goitre has been found to be endemic in 222 districts of the country.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) In order to tackle the problems of Goitre, the Government is implementing National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme. All States and UTs except Kerala, Goa and Pondicherry have banned sale of non-iodised salt for consumption.

Besides this, the Government is providing financial assistance to the States/UTs for the following activities:

- (i) Establishment of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) Control Cell.
- (ii) Publicity and Health Education.
- (iii) Conducting IDD Surveys/re-surveys.
- (iv) Establishment of IDD monitoring Laboratories.
- (v) Monitoring the quality of iodised salt.

Higher Education Institute in Jalaun

2838. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH VARMA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to open any institute for higher education/technical education in Jalaun district of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.